

CHAPTER 4

I. SUMMARY OF STATEWIDE FINDINGS RELATED TO LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY GOVERNING BODIES - 2005

The majority of Missouri's local public health agencies are governed by Boards of Trustees. Sixteen percent (16%) are governed by County Commissions, and a few agencies are governed by other types of governance (i.e., City Council, etc.). (See Graph 9.1 and Data Table 9.1)

Less than half (36%) of the agencies use a Checklist to orient new governing body members. Eighty-two percent (82%) provide new governing body members with a copy of Public Health Works, or information on Internet access to Public Health Works. (Note: Public Health Works is a web-based Orientation Manual for Public Health Leaders, made available by the Center for Local Public Health Services and located at <http://www.dhss.mo.gov/LPHA/PHWorks/PublicHealthWorks.pdf>. The Center also provides orientation packets for governing body members upon request.) (See Graphs 9.2 & 9.3 and Data Tables 9.2 & 9.3)

Agencies provide printed information, verbal, or other presentations to new governing body members on various subjects pertinent to public health. Eighty-eight percent (88%) or more agencies orient new members on the Sunshine law, their agency policy manuals, and an overview of their agency's programs and goals. Seventy-nine percent (79%) provide other additional information on roles and responsibilities. Fifty-one percent (51%) of the agencies introduce the Public Health Makes Life Better video, 46% use the Principles of Public Health course and provide information on NALBOH (National Association of Local Boards of Health), 13% use the Introduction to Epidemiology as a resource, but only 4% introduce the Ten Essential Public Health Services to new governing body members. (See Graph 9.4 and Data Table 9.4)